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Coosa River Baptist Association

v. 1. 1850	v. 12. 1869
v. 2. 1852	v. 13. 1870
v. 3. 1853	v. 14. 1872
v. 4. 1854	v. 15. 1874
v. 5. 1855	v. 16. 1875
v. 6. 1856	v. 17. 1877
v. 7. 1858	v. 18. 1878
v. 8. 1859	v. 19. 1879
v. 9. 1860	v. 20. 1880
v. 10. 1861	v. 21. 1881
v. 11. 1866	v. 22. 1882

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

B. W. Mynatt
Rev. C. Wood

PROCEEDINGS.

COOZA VALLEY CHURCH, SEPT. 15th, A. D. 1860.

The "Cooza River Association" met with this Church, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Introductory Sermon was preach by Elder W. G. Mynatt.

The Association was called to order by J. J. Bullington, Clerk—J. L. Curry, Moderator, being indisposed, and not able to attend.

On motion, S. G. Jenkins was invited to preside till the body could be organized.

On motion, Abner Williams and J. W. Bishop were requested to read the Letters sent by the Churches; whereupon it was shown that the following brethren were authorized to act as delegates:

CHURCHES.

Oxford—B. D. Draper, Benj. Johnson, W. C. Witt.

Antioch—S. G. Jenkins, M. M. Mashburn*, T. G. Mattison.

Cold Water—W. W. Mattison, B. W. Mattison, W. J. Glazener.

Salem—W. C. Mynatt, G. Mynatt, W. M. Richey.

Refuge—Wm. McCain, J. N. Sims, B. Clinkscales*.

Blue Eye—Wm. Oscar, G. B. Burnes, James Embry.

New Hope—S. Brewster, J. C. Reid, A. W. Lacy.

Lebanon—W. H. Sims, Thos. Curry, J. L. M. Curry*.

Talladega Town—J. J. D. Recfroe, J. W. Bishop, James Headen.

Pleasant Grove—D. B. Elliott, J. B. Truss, S. Dickerson.

Hephzi-bah—F. M. Allen, R. Allen, Wm. Lowery.

Coosa Valley—J. A. Colling, M. Hendrick, Sol. Kilgro.

Talladega—O. Welch, Wm. Welch, W. Reynolds.

Macedonia—D. H. Thweat, J. H. Mundine, J. H. Posey.

Kymulga—W. J. Young, Joseph Keith, C. Colclough.

Tallasahatchie—A. Williams, Wm. Pope, S. B. Glazener.

Big Spring—J. M. Scott, G. Mattison, J. P. Fluker.

Mt. Zion—J. J. Bullington, B. M. Fluker, Geo. Hill.

Ft. Williams—Dan'l Wallis, D. B. Oden, Thos. Goodman.

Spring Creek—J. N. Kidd, S. Posey, W. E. Posey.

On motion, requested brethren A. Williams and J. W. Bishop to act as tellers to receive the votes of the brethren for officers of this Association for the present year; which resulted in the election of S. G. Jenkins, Moderator; J. J. Bullington, Clerk; John Henderson, Treasurer.

On motion, brother John Henderson was excused for not accepting the

office of Treasurer, and brother J. W. Bishop was unanimously elected to fill his place, by acclamation.

Prayer was offered by Elder O. Welch; and the Moderator declared the body organized and ready for the transaction of business.

I. Gave an invitation to Churches wishing to become members of this Association.

Received Spring Creek Church, bearing a letter of commendation from the Shelby Association.

Invited visiting ministers to seats, and to take part in the deliberations of the body. Accepted by brother W. C. Buck, editor of Baptist Correspondent, Marion, Ala., and brother N. D. Renfroe, of Jacksonville, Ala.

RECEIVED CORRESPONDENCE.

From Canaan: J. H. Wood, J. A. Moore.

From Arbicoochee: Letter from brother Heaton, on the way to this place, sick.

From Central: P. McKinney.

From Shelby: J. P. Fulmer, H. W. Inzer, J. D. Inzer, Robt. Martin, J. A. Goss.

COMMITTEES TO REPORT THIS SESSION.

On Preaching: J. A. Collins, John Bell, Sol. Kilgore, W. E. Posey, T. G. Mattison.

On Finance: Abner Williams, D. B. Elliott, D. D. Draper.

To Examine and Report on Circular: J. J. D. Renfroe, J. M. Kidd, O. Welch.

On Business: W. C. Mynatt, G. Mynatt, B. W. Mattison.

On motion, instructed the Committee on Finance to note under proper heads all the moneys mentioned in the Letters from the Churches, whether sent by their delegates or paid previously during the present year.

The Committee on Preaching reported that they had appointed Elders N. D. Renfroe to preach this afternoon, at 3 o'clock; Gordon Mynatt to-night.

On Sabbath, O. Welch, at 9½ o'clock, A. M.; J. J. D. Renfroe, Missionary, at 11 o'clock, A. M.; W. C. Buck, at 2 P. M.

On motion, adjourned to meet Monday, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by Elder J. M. Scott.

SABBATH.

Worship was conducted in the order suggested by the committee. The congregation was large, the house of worship small, and the day rainy, yet most all tried to hear the gospel—though some had to stand in the rain at the doors and windows.

A collection was taken, after the Missionary Sermon by brother Renfroe, amounting to \$26 55.

MONDAY, 8½ O'CLOCK, A. M.

Read the Rules of Decorum.

Called the roll and marked absentees.

Called for the Report of the Committee on Business. Adopted, and its suggestions are observed in the following proceedings.

The Committee on Preaching reported brother J. J. D. Renfroe to preach at 11 o'clock, A. M., and brother W. C. Buck at 2 P. M.

I. Called for the Report of the Committee on Circular Letter prepared by brother J. L. M. Curry, who read the circular and suggested some amendments.

On motion, it was recommitted to the committee, with instructions to report as soon as practicable.

II. Called for the Report of Executive Committee. Read and adopted. (Appendix B.)

III.—RETURNED CORRESPONDENCE.

To Arbacoocha: S. G. Jenkins, Josiah Hawkins.

To Tallassahatchie: W. C. Mynatt, T. G. Mattison, S. G. Jenkins, J. A. Collins.

To Ten Islands: Wm. C. McCain, W. M. Richey, S. G. Jenkins, W. C. Mynatt.

To Shelby: M. Hendrick, Dan. Wallis, J. A. Collins, W. E. Posey.

To Central: J. J. Bullington, Dan. Wallis, O. Welch.

To Canaan: Jordan Williams, M. Hendrick.

To East Ala. Baptist Convention: S. G. Jenkins, M. Hendrick, W. E. Posey, B. W. Mattison, C. R. Cross, B. M. Fluker, W. M. Richey, J. A. Collins, J. J. D. Renfroe, S. B. Glazener.

To State Convention: J. J. Bullington, J. J. D. Renfroe, W. Reynolds, O. Welch, J. A. Collins, Wm. Welch, J. W. Bishop, Dan. Wallis, W. C. Mynatt, Geo. Hill.

The Committee on Circular reported by recommending the striking out one paragraph; which was amended, on motion, only to strike out one short quotation. Amendment prevailed, and the Circular was adopted. (Appendix A.)

IV. Called for the Report on Temperance. Read and adopted. (Appendix C.)

V. Called for Report on Education. Read and adopted. (App. D.)

VI. Called for Report on Foreign Missions. Read and adopted.—(Appendix E.)

VII. Called for the Report on Domestic Missions. Adopted. (Appendix F.)

VIII. Called for the Report on Bible Classes. Read and adopted: (Appendix G.)

IX. Called for the Report on Sabbath Schools. Read and adopted. (Appendix H.)

X. Appointed the next meeting of this Association with the Mt. Zion Church, Syllacauga, 22 miles south of Talladega.

XI.—COMMITTEES TO REPORT NEXT ASSOCIATION.

On Domestic Missions: W. C. Mynatt, D. D. Draper, B. W. Mattison.

On Education: J. J. D. Renfroe, J. W. Bishop, D. B. Elliott.

On Sabbath Schools: G. Mynatt, T. G. Mattison, J. M. Kidd.

On Foreign Missions: O. Welch, Dau. Wallis, J. H. Posey.

On Bible Classes: J. J. Bullington, M. Hendrick, W. M. Richey.

On Temperance: J. A. Collins, A. Williams, B. M. Fluker.

To Re-district the Association: J. J. Bullington, J. A. Collins, J. M. Kidd.

On motion, suspended the order of business, to appoint W. C. Mynatt, W. W. Mattison, W. Reynolds, a committee to nominate some brother to write a Circular Letter for the next session.

XII. Elected J. J. D. Renfroe to preach the next Introductory Sermon; J. J. Bullington, alternate. J. A. Collins to preach the Missionary Sermon, on Monday of the next session, at 11 o'clock, A. M.; W. C. Mynatt, alternate.

The nominating Committee reported that they had appointed brother J. M. Kidd to write the next Circular; brother J. W. Bishop, alternate.

XIII. Called for the Report on Finance. Read and adopted. (See cover page for this Report, under Statistical statement.)

Called for Treasurer's Report. Read and adopted. (Appendix H.)

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That, as we learn that brother Willie W. Mattison—a dearly beloved brother—is about to remove to a distant State, we therefore cannot permit him to leave us without giving him an expression of our love and continued regard; and this love and regard be given by extending him the right hand of fellowship, while a suitable song is being sung.

Resolved, That that the Churches of this Association be AGAIN requested to take up collections for the various objects fostered by this body, and send the amount to the next Association, whether paid previously or in the hands of their delegates.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Association be requested to pay over all moneys not otherwise directed, to the Financial Secretary of the East Alabama Baptist Convention.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the brethren of this Church, and citizens of this vicinity, for the hospitality shown us during our stay among them.

On motion, ordered the Treasurer to pay over the money sent up by the Churches for correspondence, to the Clerk, for Minutes.

On motion, agreed to pay the Clerk twenty dollars for his services; and instructed him to deposit minutes with brother John W. Bishop, for the convenience of the Churches.

On motion, requested the Clerk to have the Obituaries of Deacon T. C. Wood and brother Y. B. Jenkins, printed in the minutes of the present session of this body.

On motion, adjourned to meet with the Mt. Zion Church, Syllacauga, Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in September, 1861.

The brethren sang a song, and took the parting hand, with warm hearts and gushing tears.

Prayer was offered by the Moderator.

S. G. JENKINS, Moderator.

J. J. BULLINGTON, Clerk.

We think all that is necessary to be embraced in this report is, to suggest some plan that will increase the number and efficiency of Sabbath schools in our own bounds. This has been the aim of every report adopted by this Association for the last three years, and these efforts have been very successful.

The want of a suitable Sabbath School literature, has been declared to be one of the reasons why there were not more schools in our churches. Baptists are unwilling to use the S. S. Union books, which so cautiously evade a part of God's Word,—that blessed book in which our denominational peculiarities stand out in such bold relief that "he who runs may read!" But your committee think that from the number of series of question books now in circulation from different Baptist Publishing Houses, every church can make a suitable selection.

And if each church would look out some two or three of their most efficient members, and get them to take charge of this interest; and give them their hearty co-operation, and let them meet every Sabbath morning, whether there is preaching at other churches convenient or not, we would soon find a Sabbath School in almost every church, whether they had *question books* or not.

For the Bible should be the basis of instruction in Sabbath Schools, and it is very doubtful whether the present plan of letting every student have a question book and look out and commit the answers, is the best mode of conducting Sabbath Schools; we think to require them to study a chapter so as to be able to answer any plain question that may be asked by their teacher, and allowing them the privilege to ask their teachers such questions as the train of thought may suggest, would perhaps be more profitable to both teacher and student.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. BULLINGTON, Chairman.

H.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

JOHN HENDERSON, *Treasurer—in account with the Coosa River Association.*

	DR.
To amount Minute fund	\$52 85
To amount Correspondence fund	39 50
To amount Bible Cause	46 75
To amount Domestic Mission	128 25
To amount Indian Missions	44 50
To amount Foreign Missions	11 50
To amount Ministerial Education	6 00
To amount Life Membership of East Alabama Convention	15 00
To amount Collections on Sabbath	43 70
To amount on hand at last report	85 50
 Total.....	 \$473 55
	CR.
By amount Minute fund	\$52 85
By amount Baptist Correspondents	39 50
By amount R. Holman, C. S. D. M. B.	194 60
By amount Jordan Williams, D. M.	11 25
By amount C. R. Cross, Treas. East Ala. Convention	21 85
 Total	 \$320 05
Balance on hand	\$153 50
To amount refunded by R. Holman, Jenkins fund,	50 00
 Total	 \$203 50

N. B. The Financial Committee, at last Association, did not distinguish

On Sabbath Schools: G. Mynatt, T. G. Mattison, J. M. Kidd.

On Foreign Missions: O. Welch, Dan. Wallis, J. H. Posey.

On Bible Classes: J. J. Bullington, M. Hendrick, W. M. Richey.

On Temperance: J. A. Collins, A. Williams, B. M. Fluker.

To Re-district the Association: J. J. Bullington, J. A. Collins, J. M. Kidd.

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XIII. Called for the Report on Finance. Read and adopted. (See cover page for this Report, under Statistical statement.)

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Respectfully submitted,

J. J. BULLINGTON, Chairman.

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Balance on hand	\$153 50
To amount refunded by R. Holman, Jenkins fund	50 00
	 \$203 50

N. B. The Financial Committee, at last Association, did not distinguish

In their Report between the Domestic Mission fund proper, and the Domestic Mission fund for the bounds of the Association. I inadvertently paid it all to Rev. R. Holman. He has since refunded the Jenkins fund, \$50. He proposes to refund any balance he may have belonging to our Domestic Mission. As I have not been able to ascertain the amount, I have not drawn on him for it. Most of the money on hand belongs to the Domestic Mission in our Association, as the Executive Committee have been unable to get a missionary for any length of time. I have not been able to find out for what organization the item of \$46 75, for Bible cause, was intended, and I have not been directed, as your Constitution requires, to pay it to any one. Indeed, most of the payments made by me have been without the direction of your body.

Rules of Decorum.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.
3. The names of the members shall be called each day before proceeding to business, and no member shall absent himself from the Association, unless he have leave or be sick and unable to attend.
4. Visiting ministering brethren present shall be invited to seats in the Association.
5. The Moderator shall preside over the Association, preserve order, and appoint all Committees, with the sanction of the Association.
6. The Moderator may speak in debate on any question—appoint some other member to fill the chair temporarily—but shall not vote except in case of a tie.
7. The Moderator shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association by any two members.
8. Every member, when speaking, shall rise from his seat, respectfully address the Moderator, confine himself to the question before the body, and avoid personalities.
9. A motion made must be seconded, and stated by the Moderator before debating; and every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the Moderator or any member require it.
10. When a motion is stated by the Moderator, it is in possession of the Association; but may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before a discussion or amendment.
11. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except to lay on the table, to postpone indefinitely, to commit or amend; which said motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are stated; but a motion to adjourn is always in order, except when a member is speaking or the body engaged in voting.
12. All questions, except such as relate to the Constitution, the Rules of Decorum, or the reception or exclusion of Churches, shall be decided by a majority of votes; in the excepted cases, two-thirds are required.
13. In filling blanks with particular numbers, the question shall be first taken on the highest number and longest time.
14. When a motion has once been decided, a member voting with the majority may move for a reconsideration on the same day.
15. No speaker shall be interrupted unless he be out of order, and no member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition without leave of the Association.
16. No practice shall be allowed which has a tendency to interrupt the speaking or the business of the Association.

17. The appellation of "brother" shall be used by members in their addresses one to another.
18. The Clerk shall read these rules at the opening of every session of the Association.
19. Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator.

Constitution.

ARTICLE 1. This union of Churches shall be styled "THE COOSA RIVER ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST CHURCHES."

ART. 2. This Association shall meet annually, and be composed of Delegates from all the Churches which may connect themselves with this union; and each Church may send three Delegates.

ART. 3. The Churches composing this body are expected to send with their Messengers, letters giving an account of their state; the additions and diminutions during the year; the whole number of members in fellowship; and whatever may relate to their peace and prosperity. The letters shall be read and minuted accordingly. In the absence of a Letter from any church accrediting delegates, they shall be admitted to seats upon such other evidence of their appointment as may be satisfactory to the Association.

ART. 4. When a church shall neglect making any communication to the Association for two years successively, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us; unless members of the Association request its continuance, when a Committee shall be appointed to inquire into its standing and report at the next meeting of the Association.

ART. 5. At each session, a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer shall be chosen by ballot, who shall hold their offices until successors are elected. The Moderator shall preside in the meetings of the Association and see that order is observed by all the members.

The Clerk shall keep a faithful record of all business transacted during the session, and take charge of the documents belonging to the Association.

The Treasurer shall receive all monies belonging to the Association; keep an accurate account of the same; pay them out only by order of the Association, and make report of the state of the treasury before the close of each session.

ART. 6. Churches wishing to unite with this Association may apply by letter and messengers; and, giving satisfactory information of their being sound in doctrine and correct in practice, may be received.

ART. 7. Any church may withdraw at its own discretion, but the Association may declare a dissolution of union with any church deemed corrupt in doctrine or disorderly in practice.

ART. 8. We acknowledge the INDEPENDENCE OF PARTICULAR CHURCHES, and that no authority or jurisdiction is to be exercised over them by this Association; nor will the Association decide in any controversy that may arise in any particular church or between churches; nevertheless, we deem it our duty to disown any church belonging to this body which may have essentially departed from the faith, and to give advice to any of the constituent churches that may solicit it, but only after a due course of procedure according to the Gospel shall have been pursued.

ART. 9. This Association may open and hold correspondence with other Associations or Baptist benevolent Institutions or Societies, as may be deemed expedient, as its design primarily is to promote the cause of true religion by fraternal intercourse, mutual counsel and the various exercises of Christian duty and fellowship.

ART. 10. The Association, during its session, shall appoint the time and place of its next meeting; select by ballot one or more brethren to preach on the occasion, and make any other appointments or transact any other business which may be deemed expedient.

Art. 11. Any member absenting himself from any session of this body without leave, he shall be marked as an absentee.

Art. 12. This Constitution may be altered or amended by two-thirds of the delegates present at any regular meeting.

Obituaries.

DIED, in Talladega Co., on the 7th day of Oct., 1859, THOMAS C. WOOD, after an illness of eighteen days. He was born in Greenville District, South Carolina, on the 11th day of April, 1810, but when quite young, emigrated with his father to Jefferson county, in this State. When but thirteen years of age, he made a profession of faith in Christ Jesus, and was baptized, and received into the fellowship of the old Rahabah Baptist Church. In 1846 he was married to Miss Nancy Friss, and in 1848 they settled in Talladega county. In 1855 he was elected a Commissioner of Roads and Revenue, and so faithfully did he discharge the duties of that office, that in August last he was re-elected by a very large vote, his fellow citizens thus testifying their gratitude for and appreciation of his services. He was a Deacon of Pleasant Grove Church, and having been "proved," he used his office well and purchased for himself a high degree. As a son, husband, father, friend, citizen and officer, he discharged his duty, and had the unlimited confidence of all who knew him.

To the deceased was given, in his last illness, a large measure of Christian assurance. Having lived by faith, as he passed through the wilderness of Jordan, that faith was unblotted into sight, and hope grew into fruition—So heavenly was his conversation, so real his description of the joys above, so pointed and earnest his entreaties with the impenitent around him, so blissful his expectation of reunion with kindred and friends left behind, so entire and unreserved, and doubtless his trust in Jesus, that an eye and ear witness says, "It seemed to me as if he were speaking out of heaven to those on earth."

Shortly prior to his death, he requested the singing of the hymn,
"Jerusalem, my happy home,
O how I long for thee!"

and during the singing, he shouted the praise of God.

Col. Y. B. JENKINS, died at his residence, Monday night, March 12, 1860, aged 58 years. Born and raised in Greene county, Ga. Joined the Baptist church at Old Shiloh, near Mercer University, about the year 1826. Lived some years in Tallapoosa county, a useful member of Mt. Zion church, and there as well as here, his labors of love and kindness will long be remembered. Moved to Talladega county, was a useful member of Antioch church, superintendent of the Sabbath School. A strong member of the Bible class, clerk of the Church, beloved of all his neighbors, distinguished for candidness, punctuality and perseverance. Died in the most enrapturing triumphs of the Christian faith, saying, "Come, Lord Jesus, O, come!" Left a devoted wife and seven children, filled with unfeigned sorrow at this dispensation. Often remarked to his wife that his time was short, and when it came, he was ready, and fell asleep in Jesus. Let the living take warning.

S. G. J.